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MYSURU Sunday 14th March 2021
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Agritourism near Mysuru on cards

Hinterlands being identified by KSTDC to push village stay concept for tourists

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (MTY&BCT)- The convergence of agriculture and tourism creates a new tourism product called agritourism and the State Tourism Policy 2020-2025 lays a big thrust on agritourism. Taking the initiative further, the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) has proposed an agritourism destination between Mysuru and Srirangapatna.

"We are taking steps towards creating agritourism facility for tourists in Mysuru region where tourists coming here would get an opportunity of staying with farmers in the villages. The KSTDC and the Tourism Department is in the process of identifying certain villages in the hinterlands of Mysuru and Srirangapatna for the same," KSTDC Chairperson Shruthi Krishna told *Star of Mysore*.

With agritourism, tourists will get the advantage of learning a lot about villages, forest, food habits and farming while staying in villages. Government is making arrangements for the stay and safety of tourists in rural areas, she said and added that this

Agritourism will have a positive impact on farmers as their source of income will increase.

step will have a positive impact on the farmers as their source of income will increase since they will be providing accommodation and food. Also tourists will get an altogether different experience, Shruthi added.

Also, Tourism Department owns over 19 acres of land near Srirangapatna somewhere close to KRS Dam backwaters and discussions are on to set up an agritourism destination there. "Every year Mysuru sees a lot of tourists who are keen to go towards villages and love to be in natural environment. If this project succeeds and picks up popularity, then Mysuru will be the first district in Karnataka to set the trend of agritourism," she said.

Agritourism is a big hit in Rajasthan and is a tourism related to farms and ranches which provide various benefits to low-income farmers by supporting them to earn additional income, creating employment for rural youth, promoting handicraft and art and at the same time preserving the culture, she said.

(See AGRITOURISM on page 6)

Surge in COVID: CM to hold meeting tomorrow

Fresh restrictions not ruled out; stress on testing, vaccination drive

CM B.S. Yediyurappa

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (SSV)- Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has convened a high-level meeting at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru tomorrow (Mar. 15) at 5 pm in view of sudden rise in COVID-19 positive cases in Karnataka.

A senior officer of State Health Department told *Star of Mysore* this morning that the meeting will take stock of the current situation and is likely to implement certain new rules in COVID-19 hotspots from where the maximum positive cases were reported.

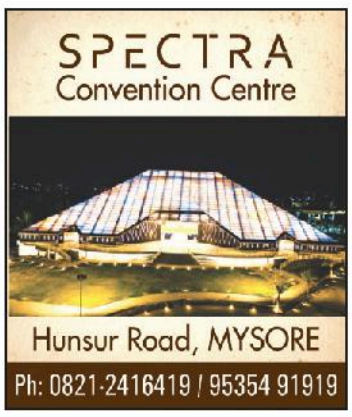
Last month, the Government had relaxed certain rules due to slide in cases. But the positive cases were on rise again, thus forcing the Government to review the existing situation and take urgent steps to check the spread of pandemic.

The officer said that the CM will review both RT-PCR testing and ongoing vaccination drive. Medical experts have already warned of a second wave in case the Government fails to tighten the existing rules before the situation goes out of control.

The number of positive cases was on the rise in Bengaluru Urban, Mysuru, Dakshina Kannada, Kalaburagi and Tumakuru despite efforts by the District Administrations to check the pandemic. Testing has been further intensified in such districts. Target for RT-PCR test has been revised for 8-10 districts including Mysuru and Kodagu, he added.

During the meeting, the CM is also likely to issue instructions to Deputy Commissioners of all districts to mop up the ongoing phase-3 vaccination drive for senior citizens and those aged above 45 years but with comorbidities in view of poor progress in many districts. The Government wants to intensify the vaccination drive in urban areas where people are hesitant to take the jab suspecting its safety and efficacy.

(See COVID on page 6)



STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 14th March 2021

Former CM Moily gets Kendra Sahitya Akademi award

Veerapa Moily

New Delhi, Mar. 14- Former Karnataka Chief Minister (CM) and writer Veerapa Moily has bagged the Kendra Sahitya Akademi award-2020 for Kannada, for his epic poem 'Sri Bahubali Ahimsa Digvijayam' on the life of Bahubali and the history of Shravanabelagola in Hassan district of Karnataka.

Moily, a senior Congress leader and a former Union Minister, is among 20 writers of the country who bagged the award for the year 2020, which was announced on Friday. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh and a citation.

Moily is a well-known writer in Kannada. His 5-part epic poem 'Shree Ramayana Mahanveshanam' was awarded Saraswati Samman in 2015.

Meanwhile, two other writers from Karnataka have bagged the award — **K.S. Mahadevaswamy,** a teacher by profession, who writes under the pen name Swamy Ponnachi, has been awarded the 'Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar-2020' for his debut short story collection 'Dhoopada Makkalu' and **H.S. Byakod** has been awarded the 'Bal Sahitya Puraskar-2020' for his work 'Nanoo Ambedkar.'

MCC Commissioner feted

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (KS)- Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Shilpa Nag was felicitated as part of International Women's Day at JSS Hospital in city recently.

Also, Dr. Deepthi Thandaveshwar, Assistant Professor, Department of Paediatrics, JSS Medical College and Hospital, Dr. M. Renuka Devi, Vice-Principal, JSS College of Physiotheraphy, Dr. Divya Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Health System Management Studies, JSS AHER and Dr. H.K. Mamatha, Associate Professor, Department of Health System Management Studies, JSS AHER were felicitated for their achievement on the occasion.

JSS Hospital Director M. Dayananda, Deputy Director Dr. Shyam Prasad Shetty, JSS Medical College Principal Dr. H. Basavana Gowdappa, Resident Medical Officer Dr. Shanthamallappa, Chief of Nursing Services Janet Mathias, Professor at the Department of Microbiology Dr. Sumana and Professor at the Department of ENT Dr. M.B. Bharathi were present on the occasion.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

A recent study done by America's Centres for Disease Control and Prevention revealed a startling metric: 78% of people who have been hospitalised, needed a ventilator, or died from COVID-19 in the US were overweight or obese. We might say obesity is an American problem. Indians don't have this issue to that magnitude. Sure, our population isn't 42% obese (yet). In fact, we even have hunger and malnutrition in the poorer segments of the population. However, in the middle class and affluent population, there's a growing obesity epidemic. Many of our food traditions come from our roots as a farming population. Our forefathers did heavy manual labour all day. We sit at home watching web series or answering e-mails on our laptops, calling it 'work'. We can't be eating the same things.

—Chetan Bhagat in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Stone violin gives 'Rock Music' a new meaning

Stockholm: Blackbird is a unique stone violin carved by Swedish sculptor Lars Widenfalk, based on drawings by Stradivarius, but with modifications that allow it to be played.

Lars Widenfalk came up with the idea of creating a violin out of stone in the late 1980s, while chiseling away at a piece of diabase and being impressed by the pleasant sound it made when hit with hammer and chisel. It wasn't until 1990 that he finally got his hands on a piece of diabase large enough to be sculpted into a life-size violin, but as soon as he did, he got to work. In the end, he needed a second piece for the back of the violin, but after two years of hard work, Blackbird, the stone violin named after the homonymous bird, was finally completed.

Even though the entire soundbox of the Blackbird violin is carved out of the black volcanic rock, the whole instrument weighs just 4.4 pounds. Blackbird also features black ebony for the finger board, pegs, tailpiece and chin-rest, as well as a bridge made from yellow wooly mammoth ivory sourced from the Siberian permafrost.

Airparks, where planes are common as cars

California: Airparks are residential neighbourhoods designed specifically for people who own their own light airplanes and want to keep them parked in their driveways.

Living in one of these Airparks isn't cheap. For example, the only available home in California's Cameron Airpark Estates, is currently listed for $1.5 million. But that's the price you pay for living in a place where light airplanes are as common, if not more so, than cars.

Driving through, one would notice that most houses have planes parked in their driveways instead of cars. Garages are the size of small hangars and the streets are about 100 feet wide.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Taste in elderly – salt

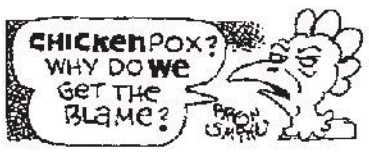
When an elder oversalts his food, the problem more likely arises from a decreased sensitivity to salt than dissatisfaction with the cooking. The elderly often face trouble recognizing salty and bitter tastes, resulting in increased salt intake, which can lead to high blood pressure. Rather than adding salt, the elderly should eat foods seasoned with herbs and olive oil. As per standards, safe intake of salt is 1 teaspoon per day to prevent Hypertension.

By Syeda Shifain Fathima, Department of Dietetics & Nutrition

COLUMBIA ASIA

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***



Shingles is a viral condition caused by the varicella zoster virus, the same virus that causes chickenpox. After you've recovered from chickenpox, the virus can enter your nervous system and lie dormant for many years before it re-emerges in the form of shingles. A weakened immune system, often caused by stress, can trigger shingles.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAR. 12	MAR. 13
Day's Positive Cases	30	47
Total Positive Cases	54,367	54,414
Day's Discharges	20	23
Total Discharges	53,144	53,167
Day's Deaths	0	1
Total Deaths	1,035	1,036
Total Active Cases	188	211

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Hebbal Sri Annapurneshwari Rathotsava and *Anna Santarpane* on Mar. 16

Mysuru, Mar. 14- Sri Mahaganapati Seva Samiti has organised Sri Annapurneshwari Rathotsava and Anna Santarpane at Sri Annapurneshwari Temple, Hebbal Layout 1st Stage, on Mar. 16 at 12 noon.

Addressing a press meet, Samiti President K.T. Cheluvegowda said that MLA L. Nagendra, former and sitting Corporators will be participating in the event. Nearly three quintals of rice and clothes will be donated to over 25 orphanages and old age homes on this occasion. Approximately 15,000 to 20,000 devotees are expected to participate in the programme. COVID-19 precautionary measures will be followed strictly.

Samiti Chief Secretary Odulingegowda, Vice-President S.P. Ningegowda, M.B. Vijaykumar and Treasurer R. Kumar were present.

REALLY...?

- ***In 1889, the Queen of Italy, Margherita Savoy, ordered the first Pizza delivery.***
- ***You can buy eel flavoured ice cream in Japan.***
- ***The calcium in our bones and the iron in our blood come from ancient explosions of giant stars.***
- ***The Nile Crocodile can hold its breath underwater for up to two hours while waiting for prey.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Mrs. Lang, a fourth-grade teacher, was instructing her class on American history.

"George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it," she said.

"Now, Sally, do you know why his father didn't punish him?"

*"That's simple," **Sally replied,** "Because George still had the axe in his hand!!"*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 72.69
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 101.18
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.79
1 Euro	= Rs. 86.89

VOICE OF THE READER

MGP: To be and How to be

Sir,

This has reference to the article ***Does Mysuru need an NGO platform like the one provided by MGP?*** by Dr. Bhamy Shenoy *(SOM* dated Feb. 20, 2021) and a rejoinder from Ashvini Ranjan ***(MGP — A need for a stronger NGO platform*** *in SOM dated March 1).* Both of them have well established for a dire need for an NGO like Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP) and no doubt a stronger one than the present or the earlier working version of MGP.

It is a stark fact that MGP is an NGO without a body but only a soul (as described by one of the MGP Past Presidents). It does not have an office premises of its own and a staff to do its self- proclaimed work (of acting as a bridge between common citizen and the powers that be). Does this speak of its vibrant existence all these years? Was it not possible to find a physical place of its own for so many years knowing all the resourceful persons in the corridors of administration? Or was it a wilful self negation? A newspaper establishment such as yours have better body with muscles to take up many issues affecting the citizens.

As per the survey figures quoted by Ranjan, it is very difficult to meet either a public representative or a Government Officer and hence the need for an NGO like MGP. But what does a common citizen facing several issues unresolved for a long time find when he approaches MGP? No-body-but-only-a-soul advising him to follow certain procedures or file a case in Consumer Court for redressal ! How does it change the ground reality for the common citizen by mere existence of MGP without a body?

An honest way would be to receive many such issues from time to time from several citizens from different areas, discuss them in detail as to the causes, think of solutions and take it up with the authorities concerned and get the solutions implemented, while keeping the complainant constantly informed and apprised. At least it will do justice to its name — Grahakara Parishat.

No doubt the health and vibrancy of MGP needs to be restored but not allowing once again indulging in unconstitutional activities outside the frame of working for all such NGOs. The act of supporting the administration and the elected representatives, after they come into the office duly elected, is a part of NGOs' work to redress the grievances. **But supporting some political candidates during elections, financing some of the campaigns are different. Let us not confuse between them to be same. This violates the framework of all NGOs.**

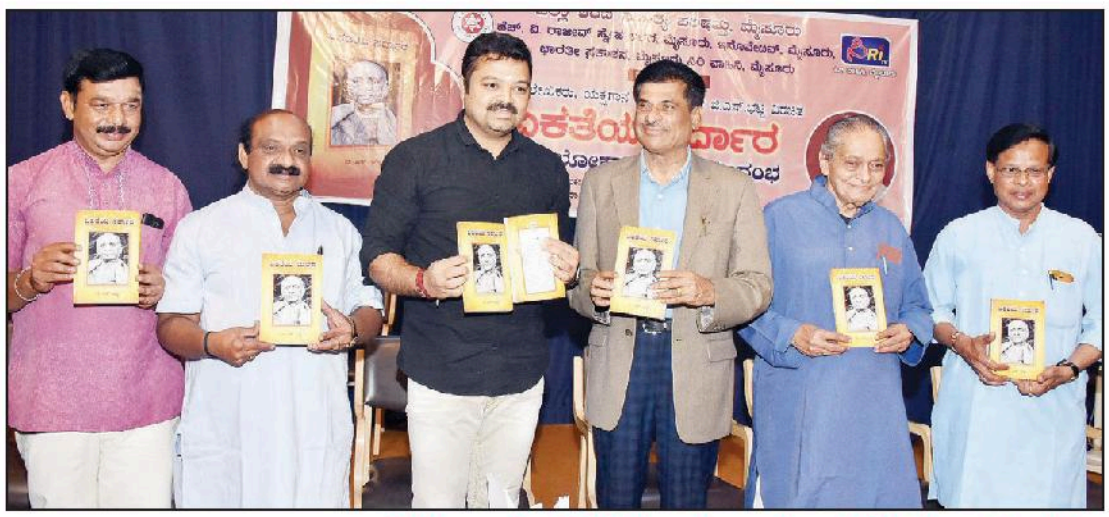
How can MGP deal with the elected representative whom they had indirectly opposed by campaigning for the rival candidate?

The previous working group of MGP was suspected to have been engaged in such acts besides being autocratic and being manipulative and hence the General Body took serious view of it and forced an election for the first time in the history of MGP.

Lastly, referring to the last para of Ranjan's letter, it is appropriate to remember what the British PM Sir Winston Churchill said on transfer of power to Indians. If we approve of his statements coming out of fear for stability, was there a plan B? Yes, there is no end to learning! Each one of us is a student till death!

—Prof. B.S. Shankara (Retd.),
Life Member-MGP
Ramakrishnanagar
8.3.2021

'Sardar Patel was the only national leader who could unite a divided India then'



Chakravarthy Sulibele releases book 'Ekatheya Saradara - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patelara Jeevana - Sadhane'

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (PM&DM)- Writer and noted Orator Chakravarthy Sulibele said, there was no tall leader in the country as Vallabhbhai Patel in those times, who could unify the entire country under a single precept.

He was speaking after releasing the book *'Ekatheya Saradara - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patelara Jeevana - Sadhane,'* authored by G.S. Bhatta, at a programme organised under the joint aegis of District Sharana Sahitya Parishat, H.V. Rajeev Sneha Balaga, Innovative Mysuru and Bharathi Prakashana, at Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Bhavan in JSS Hospital premises here yesterday.

Noting that as per his studies, there was no other leader in the country other than Patel who could bond the entire country under a single precept, Sulibele said that though Subhash Chandra Bose had the capability, he had already left the country then.

Stating that Patel sacrificed everything for the sake of the country, he said that Patel had such greatness that he never crossed the words of Mahatma Gandhi. Pointing out that Patel sacrificed the Prime Minister's chair to his junior Jawaharlal Nehru following a direction from Gandhiji, Sulibele said that Patel, who became the Home Minister, would have acceded the whole of Kashmir with India, had Nehru not interfered then. Terming the nomination of Nehru as the Chief of Congress party and later his appointment as the Prime Minister as a historical blunder, he claimed that though Patel was associated with the Congress for decades, he was not a happy man in the party.

Maintaining that such books are very much the need of the hour at a time when there is lack of understanding on the life of Statesmen and other such great personalities, Sulibele regretted that the younger generation of the country was facing a dearth of role models.

Expressing disappointment that youth are not attracted to great achievers from fields other than Cricket and Cinema, he underlined the importance of introducing iconic leaders like Sardar Patel to the present generation.

Calling upon all politicians of the country to read about Sardar Patel, he said that such a reading will help them in developing leadership qualities that can take the county forward in all aspects. Regretting the tendency to restrict top leaders only to their community or State, he said that what ails the country today is that we are not following the principles, ideals and legacies left behind by great leaders of pre-independence and post-independence eras.

Contending that Patel got the respect that was really due to him with the installation of the 'Statue of Unity' in Gujarat, his home State, Sulibele said, it is heartening to note that the present Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is striving for realising the dreams that Sardar Patel had for the country.

Referring to the construction of Ram Mandir at Ayodhya, he said that the people of the country have donated generously for the cause and so far Rs. 2,000 crore fund has been collected. This shows that the country is not facing a dearth of funds and resources, despite the COVID-19 crisis, which has caused untold havoc across the globe.

Former Vice-Chancellor of University of Mysore and KSOU Prof. K.S. Rangappa presided.

District Sharana Sahitya Parishat President M. Chandrashekar, Secretary Vachana Kumaraswamy, noted Co-operator Jagadish Hebbar Karija, the book author G.S. Bhatta and others were present.

Kabaddi Tourney in Mysuru from Apr. 4 to 11

Mysuru, Mar. 14- Hunsur taluk unit of Karnataka Kannada Sene, in association with District Amateur Kabaddi Association and Harish Kumar and Yashwanth Yuva Balaga, has organised Mysuru Divisional-level Kabaddi Tournament-2021 at TNN Adarsha Hostel Sports Ground from Apr. 4 to 11.

Addressing a press meet recently, Kannada Sene President R. Siddalingamurthy informed that interested teams can register their names and participate in the tournament.

Last date for registration is Mar. 31. Entry fee would be Rs. 1,000 per team. Winners will receive a cash prize of Rs. 20,000, runners-up Rs. 15,000, Rs. 10,000 for third place and Rs. 5,000 as consolation prize along with attractive trophies. The tournament will be held in knock-out format.

Tournament Treasurer Mohan, Kabaddi Coach Prasad, BJP leader C.T. Venkatesh and Convenor Harish Kumar were present during the press meet.

For details, contact Mob: 81053-54516 or 85539-28785.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Weekly lecture tomorrow

As part of JSS Mahavidyapeetha's 'Jnana Varidhi,' a weekly online (virtual) lecture series, the city's Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) Founder Dr. R. Balasubamaniam will deliver a talk on the topic 'Leadership in service activities' at 6 pm tomorrow (Mar. 15). This will be the 15th edition of the digital lecture series. The lecture can be accessed through the following links: YouTube: ***http://Youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline*** OR Facebook: ***https://www.facebook.com/JSSMVP*** OR Website: ***http://jssonline.org***

NIPM Foundation Day celebrations

National Institute of Personnel Management (NIPM), Mysuru Chapter, has organised 41st NIPM Foundation Day celebrations at GRS Fantasy Park, off KRS Road, Metagalli, at 6.15 pm tomorrow (Mar. 15). V. Eswara Rao, Vice-President - Works, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd., Vikrant Tyre Plant-1, 2 & 3, Mysuru, will be chief guest. P.V. Sneha, Superintendent of Police (SP), Karnataka Lokayukta, Mysuru Division, Mysuru, will be the guest of honour. No participation fee. For registration, log on: ***https://forms.gle/f2JfpwsqKyppH88J6;*** For details, contact Mob: 81239-75499 or 74110-69559, according to a press release from NIPM.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Yesterday	:	108.00 feet
Inflow	:	313 cusecs
Outflow	:	4,216 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,267.24 feet
Inflow	:	110 cusecs
Outflow	:	760 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,823.23 feet
Inflow	:	48 cusecs
Outflow	:	45 cusecs

Will not allow G.T. Devegowda's return to JD(S) till I am in politics, says HDK

Hunsur, Mar. 14 (HSM&KK)- Former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy (HDK) has categorically said that as long as he was in politics, he will not allow Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) return to Janata Dal (Secular).

Addressing party workers at Adichunchanagiri Community Hall here yesterday, he said both Devegowda and his son, G.D. Harish Gowda have grown like a big banyan tree. Parallel to them, a new sapling will be planted. Disciplinary action will be initiated against those who work or talk against party. Lots of people, including Periyapatna MLA K. Mahadev, were dependent on G.T. Devegowda. "I want to see the future of those leaders in case Chamundeshwari MLA joins Congress," he said.

Reacting to BJP MLC A.H. Vishwanath's statement that being a former CM, Kumaraswamy must not involve in society elections, he said that villages and societies were the sources of politics. "Our family has seen milk unions and Delhi Red Fort. We are ready to do everything to strengthen JD(S). We will not support any individual, who talks of finishing the party. At the same time, workers will not be neglected. Already, we have complained to Co-operation Minister against the new system of electing 15 Directors by dividing Hunsur and Mysuru divisions for MyMUL polls and requested him to follow the existing system of electing nine directors all taluks," HDK said.

Later, talking to reporters, he sought to know whether G.T Devegowda deserved to be made the CM just because he defeated Siddharamaiah in 2018 Assembly elections. Was the Minister's post was not sufficient for him? "Devegowda is slowly distancing himself from the party by indulging in anti-party activities. Party doors are permanently shut for him. He will not be taken back into the party fold as long as I am in active politics," he added.

MLA S.R. Mahesh, JD(S) District President Narasimhamurthy and others were present.

Former CM and senior JD(S) leader H. D. Kumaraswamy seen addressing party workers at Adichunchanagiri Community Hall here yesterday as MLA S. R. Mahesh and others look on.

'No one has made me in-charge of anything'

G.T. Devegowda

"No one has made me in-charge of anything at anytime. I have grown on my own in the field of co-operation in last 50 years. I have made several co-operators as President. I have no other intentions, except encouraging co-operators," said Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda.

Reacting to former CM H.D. Kumaraswamy's statement that those who were given responsibility were not with him, he said "We have never lost in the dairy elections. Winners would listen to us and will elect the new President. However, it was not possible to change them overnight."

"H.D. Revanna is the Dairy President, KMF Director and a former Minister, can he be removed from any post? Can I remove him? Likewise, none can remove senior co-operators", he added.

Brave heart boy from Kodagu posthumously honoured with Hoysala Shaurya Award

Madikeri, Mar. 14 - A class 10 student from Kodagu, who drowned in Cauvery river at Dubare Elephant Camp of Kodagu district last year while saving the life of his schoolmate, was honoured with the Hoysala Shaurya Award by the Women and Child Welfare Department.

Son of Madeera Harish and Kavitha of Hysodlur village, Madeera Lenin Bopanna (16) had been nominated for the award. Lenin Bopanna was a student of Lion's School in Kalathmadu village near Gonikoppal town.

The incident took place last year (Mar. 4, 2020) when students from the school's Scouts and Guides team had gone for a picnic and visited Dubare Camp. Some students reportedly went for a swim in the Cauvery River but were pulled by water currents.

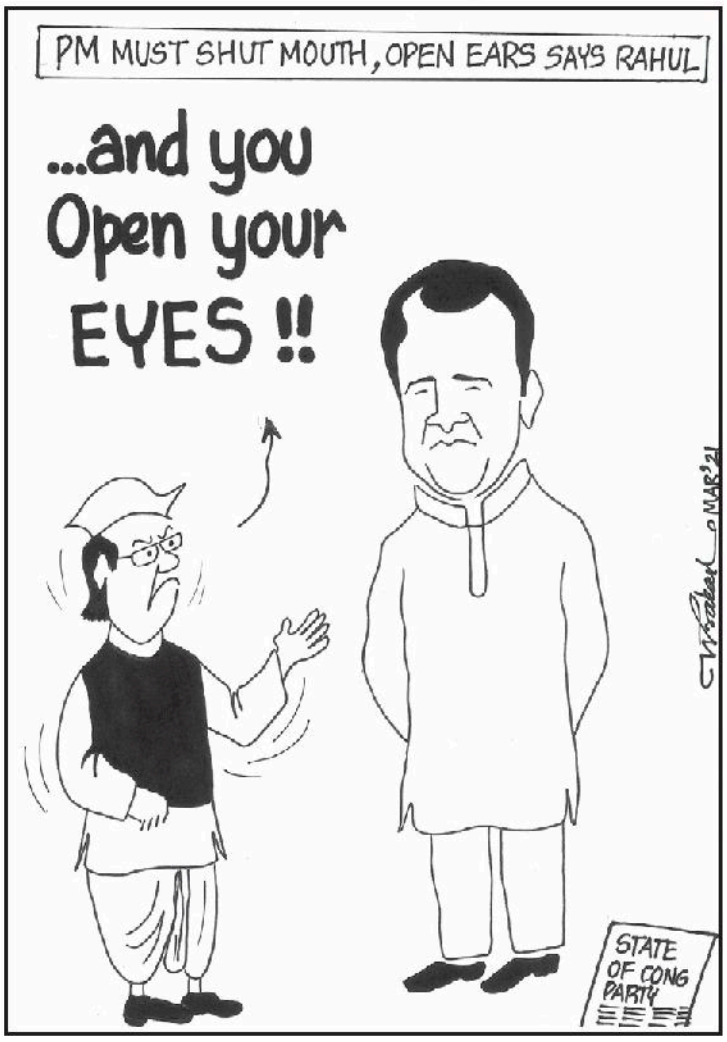
Lenin Bopanna had immediately jumped into the river and successfully saved the life of Shan Mandanna, son of Kiriyamada Isha Bopanna, but he himself drowned in the rescue process while trying to rescue another student named Kodengada M. Shreyas of Kanoor.

Madeera Lenin Bopanna

His parents Madeera Harish and Kavitha received the Hoysala Shaurya Award (posthumous) at the Award Presentation Ceremony held in Bengaluru on Wednesday (Mar. 10).

Deputy Chief Minister Govind M. Karjol, Scouts and Guides State Regional Commissioner P.G.R. Sindhia, Women and Child Development Minister Shashikala Jolle and other dignitaries were present at the ceremony.

TEASER By N. Prakash



Heliport facility at Lalitha Mahal Helipad: Minister

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (MTY,YDS &BCT)- It's official. The State Government will launch its ambitious Heli Tourism in Mysuru and connect it with other tourist destinations from the Lalitha Mahal Helipad considering the close proximity to city, access to wider roads and other facilities. As part of the Heli Tourism Circuit, Mysuru will be linked with other destinations like Hampi, Jog Falls, Mangaluru and Udupi.

Yesterday afternoon, a team of pilots from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Bengaluru and a team of technical experts visited the Lalitha Mahal Helipad and were satisfied with the facilities available there. The team had come to Mysuru based on the request from Minister for Tourism, Ecology and Environment C.P. Yogeeshwar, who is keen on launching Heli Tourism.

The teams also inspected Mysore Airport land at Mandakalli as it was suggested earlier that a part of Airport land could be used for Heli Tourism. The technical team finally zeroed in on the Lalitha Mahal Helipad as the most suited one for Heli Tourism Circuit.

"For the Heli Tourism project, we will set up two heliport facilities at Bangalore Palace Grounds in Bengaluru and at Lalitha Mahal Helipad in Mysuru. We have spoken about the issue to Pramoda Devi Wadiyar of the erstwhile Mysuru royal family and she has consented to this proposal. Facilities will be established for maintenance of the flying machines along with rehaul facilities and provision to park four to five choppers," he said.

Last evening, Minister Yogeeshwar participated in a tourism stakeholder meeting at Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel where he had an interaction with the heads of Travels, Tourist Guides and Yoga associations. The Minister felt the need of marketing Mysuru's Unique Selling Proposition like heritage, culture, yoga, music and traditional cuisine.

"Sometime back, the Government has constituted a Cauvery River Tourism Development Authority (CRTDA) to develop tourism-related infrastructure in Mandya, Mysore, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu districts and the Authority was tasked with developing tourism from Bhagamandala in Kodagu to Hogennakkal Falls, along the path of the Cauvery," Yogeeshwar claimed.

The Cauvery basin would become a tourist paradise if we provide good infrastructure at the towering hills, monuments, temples, palaces and wildlife sanctuaries, the Minister added.

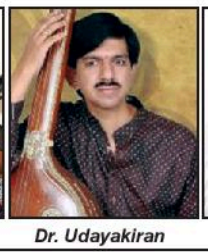
Yogeeshwar said that the Tourism Department was keen on developing a 'Brand Mysuru ' in order to market the tourism potential in the region and its unique products like Mysuru Sandal, Mysuru Silk along with the tourist attraction which had lost its sheen lately.

Karnataka Exhibition Authority Chairman Hemanth Kumar Gowda, Deputy Director of Department of Archaeology, Heritage and Museums Nirmala Matapathi, Tourism Department Deputy Director Mothilal, Mysore Travel Association President B.S. Prashanth and others were present.

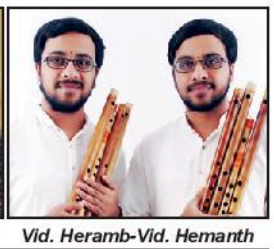
Venu Vidwan A. V. Prakash Memorial Music Festival from tomorrow

Mysuru, Mar. 14- A three-day Music Festival from Mar. 15 to 17 in memory of Venu Vidwan A.V. Prakash has been organised by Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha at Sri Vidyabharathi Prarthana Mandira of Sri Chandramouleeshwara Temple in V.V. Mohalla here at 6 pm daily.

Vidu. Rajalakshmi



Dr. Udayakiran



Vid. Heramb-Vid. Hemanth

Mar. 15: Vidushi Mysore S. Rajalakshmi will present a veena concert accompanied by **Vid. Tumkur B. Ravishankar** on mridanga and **Vid. T.N. Ajay** on ghata.

Mar. 16: Vocal concert by **Vid. Dr. K.T. Udayakiran.** He will be accompanied by **Vid. Keshav Mohankumar** on violin, **Vid. H. L. Shivashankaraswamy** on mridanga and **Vid. S. Manjunath** on ghata.

Mar. 17: Young flute duo, **Vid. Heramb and Vid. Hemanth,** will render a flute concert. The duo will be accompanied by **Vid. Dr. K.T. Udayakiran** on violin, **Vid. Akshay Anand** on mridanga and **Vid. Shrinidhi R. Koundinya** on ghata.

For more details, contact Ph: 0821-2512422.

Paduvarahalli Jodi Maramma Jathra from today

Mysuru, Mar. 14 - The annual Paduvarahalli Jodi Maramma Jathra will be celebrated in a grand manner from today.

At 2 am today, *Vaddabai* and other rituals were held and today at 2 pm, *Nada Kushti* was held in which 25 wrestlers participated. Sugama Sangeeta has been organised at Bayalu Rangamandira behind the temple today evening followed by *Tambittu Meravanige*, which will be held at 2 am tomorrow. Tomorrow at 3 pm, religious ceremonies including *Harakeya Baayibeega Meravanige* by devotees will be held. In the evening, members of Babruvahana Kannada Yuvaka Sangha will stage *Bhakta Prahlada* play at Bayalu Rangamandira.

Former Mayor Rajeshwari K. Somu, Corporator Namrata Ramesh, The Mysore Co-operative Bank Vice-President Paduvarahalli M. Ramakrishna, Director J. Yogesh, City Co-operative Bank Director B. Shivu, Director of Vokkaligara Sangha C. Mariswamy and A. Ravi will be felicitated.

MLA L. Nagendra, former MLA Vasu, Congress leader K. Harish Gowda and other dignitaries will be present. Due to COVID pandemic, devotees are requested to take all necessary precautionary measures.

Pandemic resurge casts shadow over Nanjangud Rathotsava

Mysuru, Mar. 14- Preparations are in full swing for upcoming Nanjangud Rathotsava, but the new circular issued by the State Government yesterday has cast a dark cloud over festive mood of the temple town.

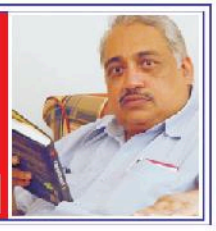
The district administration is all set to host and conduct the annual Srikanteshwara Swamy Pancha Maha Rathotsava, commonly called as *Dodda Jathra*, at Nanjangud on Mar. 26 with all necessary precautionary measures in light of the pandemic. Meanwhile, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for COVID-19 held a high-level meeting in Bengaluru yesterday to discuss the increasing number of Covid cases in some districts of the State amidst the fear of second wave and has issued a new set of guidelines and safety norms.

According to the latest guidelines, religious functions and other such gatherings shall be allowed with a ceiling of 500 persons subject to strict adherence to safety protocols. Srikanteshwara Temple Executive Officer Ravindra has also received a letter. The letter has also urged Ravindra to discuss with the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and come to a decision about holding the annual car festival in Nanjangud.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* Srikanteshwara Temple Executive Officer Ravindra said, "Over one lakh devotees are expected to participate in the annual car festival. We have already held a preparatory meeting in this regard. MLA B. Harshavardhan presided over the meeting and we have made all preparations to conduct the car festival on Mar. 26. Regarding the recently issued circular, which has reached our office, I will discuss this with DC Rohini Sindhuri and take the final call, but for now, we will continue with our preparations. "

Last year, the famous Nanjangud Rathotsava was cancelled due to the outbreak of pandemic. The number of Covid cases had subsided considerably in the last three to four month following which the State Government had relaxed the restrictions and had allowed devotees to visit all temples coming under Muzrai Department. Now, a few districts in the State are bracing a second wave of COVID-19 casting a shadow over Nanjangud Rathotsava.

Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

A Golden Gift from a Golden Era !

Yesterday, as I was sitting in my clinic doing my routine work of seeing patients, **Mukesh Leelaram** my close friend from my school-days and his wife **Madhu,** dropped in most unexpectedly. As the lady struggled to retrieve something from her handbag, I thought that she had brought some lab reports to show me as most visitors to my clinic do. But what she extricated after some effort made my heart miss a beat and leap with joy too! She handed me two vintage gramophone records in mint condition and said that they were a gift for me.

Knowing that I was very fond of music from the distant yesteryears, they felt that their gift would make me happy and they were so right too. One of the records was of **Pankaj Mullick** the legendary music composer, singer and actor and one of the leading exponents of **Rabindranath Tagore's** songs. The Indian postal service even released a postage stamp to mark his birth centenary on 4th August 2006.

Five decades earlier it was he and the Bharathanatyam danseuse **Vyjayanthimala** who were the lead performers at the nationwide launch of Doordarshan on 15th September 1959. According to me, his most enchanting song is ***'Piya milan ko jana'*** which put him at the pinnacle of greatness and still tugs at your heart strings when you listen to it, a full eighty years after it was recorded ! To understand what I mean you must listen to it and irrespective of which generation you belong to and irrespective of whether you are young or old, you'll be stirred and hooked to vintage music!

The second record that I received was of **Krishna Chandra Dey,** more popularly known as **K.C. Dey** who was **S.D. Burman's** first music teacher and mentor and the playback singer **Manna Dey's** uncle. He went on to record more than six hundred very popular songs but the sad thing is that at the tender age of fourteen, in the year 1906 he began to lose his eyesight and soon became completely blind. All his records therefore bear the notation 'Blind Singer' after his name! His most famous song is ***'Baba, man ki ankhen khol'*** which is a prayer to the Lord to give us insight and inner vision! Its lyrics penned by **Pandit Sudarshan** are really soul stirring. And, lo and behold, the K.C. Dey record that I received as my gift yesterday was this one!

Late Leelaram of The Phono and General Agency.

Mukesh Leelaram and Madhu at my clinic.

K. C. Dey

Pankaj Mullick

Postage stamp

Now you might naturally wonder how the Leelarams were able to procure these two priceless relics from the past for me. They said that they found them at home among their things and may find some more for me if I was lucky! The thing is that Mukesh happens to be the son of late Leelaram, the owner of ***The Phono and General Agency,*** a shop that still stands in the now crumbling **Devaraj Market building on Sayyaji Rao Road**. It was started in the year 1929 by his grandfather **Chella Singh,** a traveller who fell ill here in Mysore while on a pilgrimage tour of South India. After convalescing from his illness, he fell in love with Mysore and decided to settle down here itself which does not seem one bit surprising to me considering how lovable *Namma Mysuru* is in every respect!

After that it did not take him long to shift his entire family here from the distant Sind Province which is now in Pakistan. When Leelaram passed away on 25th May 2007, I wrote an article about my long association with him and his shop which was for many years the only place in the city that used to sell photo films, radios, gramophones, and phonographic records. My father being very fond of music used to frequent his shop and wherever my father went I would naturally go too, holding his finger!

Leelaram would play all the latest arrivals among his records on his hand-cranked HMV Gramophone enabling my dad to make his choices. And since they were extremely fragile, he would carefully pack the records between two thick sheets of cardboard and a good amount of thick brown paper before tying them with a jute string and handing them over to us. Because it was by listening to the songs of singers like Pankaj Mullick, Jyothika Roy, K.L. Saigal, C.H. Atma, Noor Jahan, Suraiya, Geetha Dutt and Manna Dey in the company of my father that I developed my ear for music, I have remained a full quarter century behind all my friends in my preference for the music I listen to even to this day!

Interestingly, I bought my first camera, an Agfa Click III, for thirty-two rupees, then a princely sum, form this shop and I still have it with me in mint working condition, despite the hundreds of rolls of film that I have run through it in my eagerness to become an accomplished photographer! The Phono and General agency was also the shop where I picked up a great deal of my technical knowledge about photographic processing chemistry which later helped me to do my own film and slide processing. This was because Leelaram and his two sons Shamlal and Prakash, who were older to Mukesh and who are no more, used to give me all the technical literature they received from film and camera manufacturers, being their authorised dealers.

On one day in February 1975, a few months before I joined medical college, I went there and picked up a stack of photography books from Shamlal who was at the shop. He told me that I could take them home and after leisurely selecting the ones I wanted, I could return the rest at my next visit. But having decided to keep the entire lot when I went there just a couple of days later to pay the money for them, I was a little surprised to find the shop closed. The neighbouring shop owners then told me the sad news that Shamlal had passed away the previous day in a tragic drowning accident.

So, yesterday, when Mukesh and Madhu brought me a very unexpected gift, they also brought back to me many memories of my own childhood, some glad and some sad! All I can say to them now is a big Thank You!

e-mail:
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Agritourism

(Continued from page 1)

In Mysuru region like in the rest of India, over 75 percent of population live in rural areas where the major occupation is agriculture and its allied activities. Therefore, in order to cope up with the unpredicted nature of agriculture and to release the financial strain on families, supporting activity like agritourism can help farmers by widening the scope of their earning.

"The opportunity holds immense potential due to its cost-effective nature, demand for family-oriented recreation environment, growing curiosity about farming and increased focus on promoting environmental consciousness. Villages can also hold cultural nights for tourists. Tourists will get the benefit of local cuisine made in villages and cultural programmes will make tourists aware of the local culture," Shruthi explained.

Surge in COVID

(Continued from page 1)

Health and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar, Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Jawaid Akhtar, COVID-19 State Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) led by its Chairman, Dr. M.K. Sudarshan, State Health Department Commissioner Dr. K.V. Thrilok Chandra and senior officers from Departments concerned will attend the meeting and give suggestions to check pandemic.

Fresh restrictions

"Fresh restrictions cannot be ruled out along with the existing safety protocols announced by the Union Health Ministry recently, in the wake of casual attitude of people by not following safety guidelines like wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. A cap on people attending marriage, religious, public functions and funeral has to be enforced strictly in all districts without any leniency," the officer said.

Obituary

T.S. Janardhan

Mysuru, Mar. 14- T.S. Janardhan (99), a freedom fighter and a resident of Jayalakshmipuram, passed away yesterday at his residence in city.

Janardhan leaves behind three sons, two daughters, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

His body was donated to Chamarajanagar Medical College as per his wish, according to family sources.

Saptapadi Mass Marriage

15 couples to tie the knot

atop Chamundi Hill tomorrow

Preparations underway atop Chamundi Hill this morning for tomorrow's Saptapadi programme.

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (MTY&DM)- A total of 15 couples will tie the knot at Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill tomorrow (Mar.15) in the mass marriage ceremony organised under Karnataka Saptapadi Vivaha Yojana, a mass marriage scheme introduced by the State Government.

This is the first of the series of mass marriage programme in the district this year in the period from Mar to July. The next mass marriage will take place on Apr. 22 at Nanjangud, followed at Mudukutore in T. Narasipur taluk on May 13, at Chamundi Hill on June 17 and at Nanjangud on July 7.

Chamundi Hill is getting spruced up for tomorrow's mass wedding, during which 15 couples from Mysuru, K.R. Nagar, Hunsur, T. Narasipur and H.D. Kote, who had registered for the ceremony before the deadline, will tie the knot in the auspicious *Abhijin Lagna* between 11 am and 12 Noon. The marriage will take place in accordance with COVID-19 protocol announced by the Government , with all precautionary and safety measures in place.

As part of the marriage, each bride will be given a *Thali* (8 gm Gold) and a monetary assistance of Rs.10,000 for purchase of clothes and other necessary articles. Likewise, every bridegroom will be given a dhoti and monetary assistance of Rs. 5,000.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, each couple, who are going to tie the knot, have been asked to ensure that only 20 guests from both the sides participate in the wedding. After the couples tie the knot, food will be served to all the guests.

As part of an effort to encourage simple marriages, the Government will be providing Rs. 50,000 cash assistance to SC/ST couples under Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation, while all other couples, including those from general category, will be provided a cash assistance of Rs.10,000 by the Revenue Department under *Adarsha Vivaha* scheme.

The marriage will be performed by Chamundeshwari Temple priests led by Chief Priest Dr. Shashishekar Dixit.

The district administration has erected a huge *shamiyana* close to the temple for tomorrow's mass marriage.

Temple Executive Officer Yathiraj Sampathkumaran, Assistant EO Dinesh, Muzrai Tahsildar C.G. Krishna, Temple Manager Sheela and other officials are overseeing the preparations.

Palace Sound & Light Show from tomorrow

Only 250 visitors allowed

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (SSV)- Mysore Palace Board has decided to restrict the number of visitors to watch the Sound & Light show at Mysore Palace starting from tomorrow (Monday) to 250, following the rise in Corona positive cases.

"Only 250 chairs will be put in front of the Palace with a minimum distance of six feet between each. Every visitor will be subjected to mandatory COVID test at the main gate before entering the Palace arena," said Mysore Palace Board Deputy Director T.S. Subramanya to *SOM*.

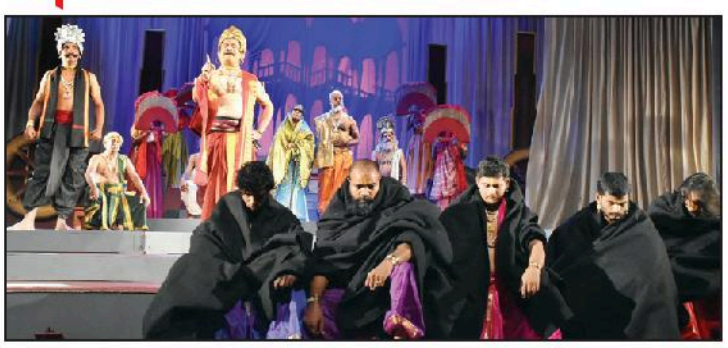
He said the Palace Board was aware of the circular issued by the State Government putting a cap on number of people attending marriage, birthdays, religious and political functions, and last rites. Accordingly, they have decided to allow only 250 persons to watch Sound and Light show which had been started after a gap of nearly six months due COVID-19 pandemic. Visitors will be allowed inside only from one gate that too after thermal screening and checking oxygen level. Any person found with fever or cough will not be allowed inside. The entire area will be cleaned thoroughly before and after the show which lasts for 45 minutes.

Subramanya said the show will be in Kannada on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; in English on Thursday and Friday and in both languages on Saturday and Sunday as there will be more tourists on the week-ends.

Only the main Palace will be illuminated for only 15 minutes after the show from Monday to Friday. But on Saturday and Sundays, the entire palace surrounding will be illuminated as usual.

"We are keeping our fingers crossed for Sound & Light show which resumes from tomorrow. So far, there is no advance booking has been made for this show and tickets will be sold at the counter. I am hoping for a good beginning without any problems," he added.

Good response to *parva* on stage



Mysuru, Mar. 14 (PM&SD)- Novelist Dr. S.L. Bhyrappa's novel 'Parva' which has been adapted into a play was staged for the second and third time at Kalamandira in city yesterday and the event got good response from theatre enthusiasts.

Today morning, Kalamandira campus was abuzz and a festive mood prevailed. Theatre lovers from Mandya, Kollegal, Chamarajanagar and other places had arrived at the venue and eagerly watched the play.

Yesterday's show witnessed many theatre buffs from Bengaluru. Except for balcony, all the 821 seats were occupied and the audience was spellbound throughout.

During the second show of the play which was held yesterday, Kalamandira was almost full. Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa said, "There are almost hundred plus characters in this play. We have had a huge challenge of managing all those characters with just 30 to 35 actors, which is certainly very demanding on their part. In fact, most of our actors have played multiple roles. We have really worked hard and put a lot of effort for this show. Now, it seems that all our efforts have paid off."

Director of National School of Drama (NSD) of Bengaluru C. Basavalingaiah, Chairman of Mysore Paints and Varnish Limited N.V. Phaneesh, Chairman of Karnataka Sahitya Academy Dr. B.V. Vasanth Kumar, renowned Bharathanatyam artiste Dr. Tulasi Ramachandra and others watched the play on stage yesterday.

Government mulling to provide Khathas in concession rates for specific lands

R. Ashok *Veena Achaiah*

Bengaluru, Mar. 14 (KMS& BCT)- The State Government is mulling on providing Khathas in concession rates for Kumki, Jamma Baane and other types of lands, said Revenue Minister R. Ashok in the Legislative Council on Mar. 10. He was replying to a question raised by MLC Veena Achaiah during the question hour.

In her question, Veena Achaiah had asked the Minister about the procedures to remove the name of the Pattedara (family chief) from the Pahani (land document) of Jamma Baane land. Every Kodava family is presided over by its head who was usually the eldest, able male member called a Pattedara.

Replying to the MLC, Minister Ashok said that as per the Land Revenue Act 1964, Column 128 and 129, a provision has been made to remove the name of the Pattedara in Jamma Baane Pahani (land which comes under revenue category) and add the names of the rightful heirs.

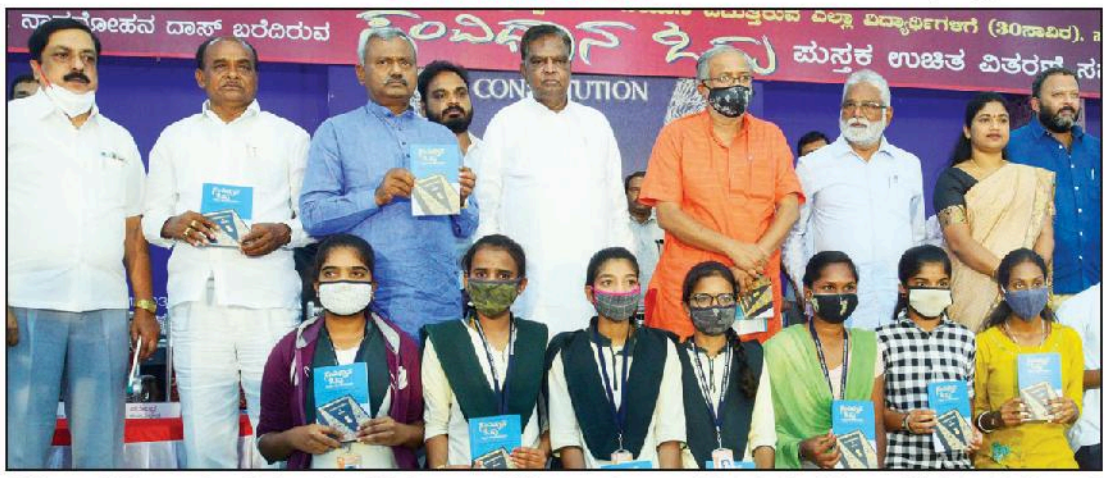
"As per the Government circular issued on 17.10.2020, steps will be taken to launch a Pouthi Khatha drive where the provision will be made to delete the names of Pattedaras who have passed away and add the names of their rightful heirs, the Minister replied.

The MLC's question comes in the wake of a series of problems faced by the residents of Kodagu when they go to revenue offices to transfer the Pouthi Khatha and many times, the Khatha is not transferred. In a normal situation, Pouthi Khatha has to happen if the applicants or the legal heirs submit land documents and the death certificate of the Pattedara.

Veena Achaiah's supplementary question was whether the process of removing the name of the deceased Pattedara and adding the name of legal heirs has been included in the Pouthi Khatha drive. To this, Minister Ashok replied that if the family Pattedara's Pouthi Khatha has the names of heirs (along with the name of the Pattedara in Column 9), then the process will be initiated in Pouthi Khatha drive to transfer the Pouthi Khatha to the legal heirs.

Minister calls for taking oath on abiding by Constitution

Suresh Kumar launches 'Samvidhana Odu' book distribution programme



Primary & Secondary Education Minister and Chamarajanagar District in-Charge Minister S. Suresh Kumar (in saffron), who inaugurated the 'Samvidhana Odu' book mass distribution programme at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan in Chamarajanagar yesterday, is seen with (standing from left) MLAs R. Narendra and C. Puttarangashetty, Co-operation Minister S.T. Somashekar, MP V. Sreenivasa Prasad, MLA N. Mahesh, ZP President Ashwini Vishwanath and MLA B. Harshavardhan.

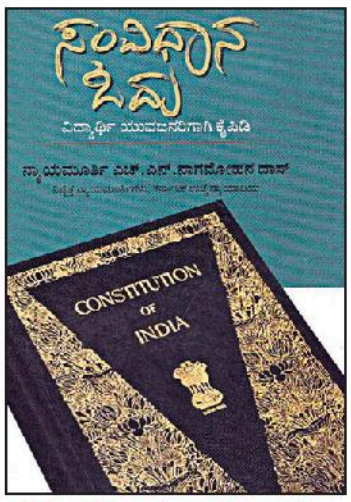
Chamarajanagar, Mar. 14 (SS &DM)- Maintaining that Indian Constitution is among the best in the world, Primary and Secondary Education Minister S. Suresh Kumar, who is also Chamarajanagar District in-Charge Minister, said that everyone should take a pledge that they would abide by the Constitution.

He was speaking at 'Samvidhana Odu' book mass distribution programme organised under the joint aegis of Primary and Secondary Education department and Samanathe Prakashana at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan in Chamarajanagar yesterday.

Pointing out that our Constitution is a holy book for us, Suresh Kumar said that Dr. Ambedkar is the Architect of the Constitution, which is to be followed by everyone. Lauding the efforts of MP Sreenivasa Prasad for distributing the book free of cost to PU students, the Minister said that Nov. 26 is being celebrated as 'Constitution Day.'

Noting that it is the BJP Government which conferred 'Bharat Ratna' on Dr. Ambedkar, Suresh Kumar said that every student should read the book in order to understand the underlying principles of our Constitution.

MP Sreenivasa Prasad, in his address, said that India is the biggest Democracy of the world and our Constitution has given the freedom for everyone to openly express their views.



'Samvidhana Odu' is written by former Karnataka High Court Judge Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das. The book, which is brought out by Samanathe Prakashana and printed by grants provided by Chamarajanagar MP V. Sreenivasa Prasad under MPLAD scheme, will be distributed to about 30,000 PU students coming under all the eight Assembly segments of Chamarajanagar Parliamentary constituency free of cost.

Asserting that it was Dr. Ambedkar who gave the idea of Republic, he said that 'Samvidhana Odu' book is being distributed to the students in order to create awareness among them on principles of our Constitution.

Observing that everyone is equal under the Constitution, the MP opined that Dr. Ambedkar and Abraham Lincoln of America are the only global leaders who fought for equality in the society. The American Government, considering the contribution of Dr. Ambedkar for equality and ending discrimination, conferred him a top global award, he added.

Prasad became emotional when singers C.M. Narasimhamurthy and Ramasamudra Manjunath sang a song scripted by poet Dr. Siddalingaiah on the travails of the downtrodden in getting their rights. As he got emotional hearing the song, tears rolled down his eyes.

Co-operation Minister S.T. Somashekar, in his address, said that Sreenivasa Prasad is a rare politician who has stuck to principles and ideologies. He lauded the efforts of the MP in maintaining social harmony.

He further said that Prasad, who is a senior politician, lost his job as Revenue Minister in the Siddharamaiah-led Congress Govt. due to the conspiracy hatched by some of his own partymen then.

Alleging that some Congress leaders misused the innocence of Prasad, Somashekar said that Prasad is a senior leader who overcame all conspiracies to become Chamarajanagar MP.

Stating that becoming an MP from the same Parliamentary constituency for six terms is no mean achievement in politics, he complimented Prasad for his commitment and dedication for serving the people.

Chamarajanagar MLA and former Minister C. Puttarangashetty presided. MLAs C.S. Niranjan Kumar and M. Ashwin Kumar, ZP Vice-President Shashikala Somalingappa, Karnataka Compost Development Corporation Chairman S. Mahadevaiah, DC Dr. M.R. Ravi, DDPI Javaregowda, DDPUE Krishnamurthy, Samanathe Prakashana's Bharath Ramaswamy, leaders C. Basavegowda and Ashok, Ramaswamy were present.

A section of the students attending 'Samvidhana Odu' book mass distribution programme.

Women are real architects of world: DCP Dr. Prakash Gowda

DCP Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda seen planting a sapling at Daksha PU College on the occasion of International Women's Day celebration recently as Chairman of Global Education Trust P. Jayachandra Raju, students and staff look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (KS)- There is a need for education of women as they are the real architects of the world, said Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) - Law and Order, Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda.

Speaking at a function organised to celebrate International Women's Day at Daksha PU College here recently, the DCP stated that women continue to contribute to social, economic, cultural and political achievement and added that men and women can pledge to take concrete steps to help achieve gender balance quickly by helping women and girls achieve their ambitions and develop more inclusive and flexible cultures.

Chairman of Global Education Trust promoting Daksha PU College P. Jayachandra Raju, who also spoke, said that today's women are multi-faceted as they take care of the family as well as their aspirations and announced the commencement of BBA and B.Com specialised Honours programmes for the first time at GTA Academy for the academic year 2021-22.

DCP Dr. Prakash Gowda, along with Jayachandra Raju, planted a sapling in the college campus in a view to keep the campus clean and green.

Youth should pledge to prevent atrocities on women

ODP Director Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira lighting the lamp during the inauguration of Women's Day celebrations at ODP.

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (MTY&KS)- Though the role of women is very important in the development of the country, atrocities on them (women) has increased in recent days and time has come for the youth to take pledge to prevent atrocities on women, said Women and Child Development Department Project Officer Geetha Lakshmi.

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the Women's Day celebration at Organisation for the Development of People (ODP) at Bannimantap here yesterday, Geetha Lakshmi opined that the role of women was important in the development of a country, which includes India and added that women have achieved in all sectors and regretted that a few issues were creating problems to them.

District Legal Services Authority's panel advocate S. Sundar Raj, who also spoke explained about 42 Acts for women's protection besides explaining about the procedures involved in seeking legal help for women, who have undergone atrocities.

ODP Director Fr. Alex Prashanth Sequeira presided. Child Development Project Officer Madhusudhan, Sub-Inspector Yasmin Taj, Maghilodaya Women's Federation Programme Convenor Sunitha, Arogya Mary, Taluk Federation Treasurer Asha, ODP members, volunteers and others were present.

MP highlights Central schemes

Mysuru, Mar.14 (RKB&DM)- Mysuru - Kodagu MP Pratap Simha yesterday distributed selection certificates to beneficiaries of various Central Government Schemes at a programme organised under the aegis of Belaku Charitable Trust at Jana Seva Kendra on Ramanuja road here on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion, Pratap Simha said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had introduced a host of welfare and development schemes for all sections of society and it is important that party workers reach the benefits to every targeted beneficiary at his or her doorstep.

Highlighting the measures taken by the Modi Government to alleviate the problems of the poor during COVID-19 crisis, Simha said that schemes such as Ayushman Bharat Health Card, Widow Pension, Old Age Pension, PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, Kisan Cards, PM-SYM (Pradhan Mantri - Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan) etc., have benefited crores of people across the country.

Maintaining that Government schemes will be successful only if all the targeted beneficiaries are benefited, he complimented Belaku Charitable Trust for taking efforts in educating the people on Government schemes and the benefits under them.

Citing a suggestion by PM Modi, the MP appealed party workers, especially from BJP Yuva Morcha, to set up COVID-19 vaccination information centres in order to educate the masses on the ongoing vaccination drive.

RSS City Sanchalak R. Vasudev Bhat, RSS leader K.P. Pradyumna, Corporator B.V. Manjunath, Belaku Charitable Trust Founder K.M. Nishant, leader Madhusudhan and others were present.

Eight women achievers felicitated

Mysuru, Mar.14 (RKB&DM)- Maintaining that India is a country where women are respected the most, MP Pratap Simha said that Hindu religion looks at women as mothers.

He was speaking after inaugurating the International Women's Day celebration organised by BJP Corporator M. Pramila Bharath (Ward No.23- Subbarayanakere) at Alamma Choultry on Vinoba road, Shivarampet, here on Saturday morning.

Highlighting the numerous programmes launched by Prime Minister Modi for the empowerment and welfare of women, Simha said that the Union Government provided 9 crore free LPG connections to poor women during COVID-19 crisis and has built 14 crore toilets for women in both urban and rural parts of India, in an effort to make the country free from open defecation.

Asserting that the Modi Government was committed for the empowerment of women, he called upon the womenfolk to get informed about various Government schemes and seek benefits under them.

Games were organised on the occasion. Also eight women achievers of the city from different fields — Rachana (Yoga exponent), Vijayamma (Cloth bag maker), Anjali (Videographer), Veena (Auto driver), Revathi (School teacher), Malathi (Anganwadi teacher), Pushpalatha (ASHA worker) and Malini (Harikatha Vidwan) were felicitated along with DCP Geetha Prasanna on the occasion.

MLA L.Nagendra, Corporator Pramila Bharath, City BJP President T.S. Srivatsa, BJP leaders Tanuja Mahesh, Hema Nandeesh, H.G. Giridhar, Ramesh Gowda, Puneeth and others were present.

Six-day training for ST Ashram School teachers from Mar. 15

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (PM & SD)- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs in association with Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute (KSTRI), Mysuru, has organised a six-day refresher training to English Mathematics and Science teachers of Scheduled Tribe (ST) Ashram Schools at Gnanaganga School, Kuvempunagar in city from Mar. 15.

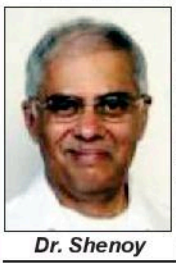
Prof. M.R. Gangadhar, Chairman, Department of Studies in Anthropology, University of Mysore (UoM), will inaugurate the programme at 11 am. Prof. T.T. Basavanagowda, KSTRI Director, will preside.

Dr. B.T. Kedarnath, Director of International Centre for Behavioural Research and Development, Kalaburagi and H.K. Bhat, retired professor, Department of Studies in Anthropology, UoM, will be the chief guests at the six-day training session.

World Consumer Day tomorrow

Time to promote real consumer movement

By Dr. Bhamy V. Shenoy



Dr. Shenoy

We in India celebrate two Consumer Days — National Consumer Day on Dec. 24 to commemorate the date on which the Consumer Protection Act came into force to promote consumer rights and responsibilities in 1986 and World Consumer Rights Day (WCRD) on Mar. 15.

Consumers International, a global federation of consumer groups, has approved the theme for this WCRD to be '*Tackling Plastic Pollution*.' It is certainly a worthy and pressing consumer problem for India in general and Mysuru in specific.

However, the real and basic problem we in Mysuru face is getting any type of service from our own, democratically elected Government. Even after 73 years of Independence we the public are treated in all the Government Offices with rare exception as servants rather than masters — a continuing colonial hangover.

Consumer activists (including myself) have welcomed the latest Consumer Protection Act 2019 which replaces Consumer Protection Act 1986 (COPRA) with great excitement. It is certainly a progressive law which certainly helps the consumers by providing several reforms like the concept of product liability, filing complaints electronically, alternate resolution mechanism like mediation, action against unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements, flexibility to file from where consumers live or work, no fees for filing for cases involving less than 5 lakhs, and providing consumer protection while purchasing online.

Unfortunately just like COPRA 1986 failed to bring about the systemic changes, COPRA 2019 may face the same dismal results and give at best band aid. One of the biggest hurdles was the 'inefficiency' of Consumer Courts which were turned into Civil Courts by the presiding officers by giving never-ending adjournments and consumer unfriendly environment in the Courts.

It is high time, NGOs start demanding our rights of getting services with minimum delay and inconvenience. For that we need to strengthen consumer movement by taking active part either by joining an existing NGO or starting a new one. Consumer movement should stop concentrating only COPRA, and start working on the concept of public being the masters and not servants. Just like Mahatma Gandhi used a simple concept of protesting salt tax to usher a new chapter in India's freedom movement, we in the consumer movement should adapt a new strategic direction to demand the status of masters in all the Government Offices and stop acting as servants.

2021 QS World University Rankings

JSS AHER ranked under "Pharmacy & Pharmacology"

Mysuru, Mar. 14 - The result of 2021 QS World University Rankings by Subject was announced virtually on Mar.4 by Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Union Minister of Education.

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER), Mysuru, was ranked in the 201-250 rank band for the first time under the subject "Pharmacy & Pharmacology" among 1,453 institutions ranked globally across 51 narrow subjects and 5 broad subject areas. JSS AHER was ranked among top 5 ranked HEIs in India under the subject "Pharmacy & Pharmacology."

This subject rankings including criteria like Academic & Employers Reputation, Publications, Citations and H-Index etc., reflects the quality and standard of education and research provided by JSSAHER.

It also scored well in other subjects like Life Sciences, Medicine and Dentistry and the institution is working on theses subjects with clear roadmap and strategies to be ranked under QS subject rankings in future.

JSS AHER, since its establishment, has significantly strengthened its teaching, research and service efforts to realise its vision and mission under the leadership and patronage of Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, who is also the Chancellor of JSS AHER.

'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' launched

Mysuru, Mar. 14 (MTY&DM)- Stating that Mahatma Gandhi was a great humanist, University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar said that Gandhiji travelled around the globe spreading the message of non-violence and truth.

He was speaking after inaugurating 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' programme organised jointly by the Centre for Gandhian Studies, UoM and NSS Wing of UoM, at Gandhi Bhavan premises in Manasagangothri here on Mar. 12.

The 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' is a series of events organised across the country by the Government of India to commemorate the 75th anniversary of independence, which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmadabad, Gujarat, on Mar. 12.

The Mahotsav was launched as part of the commemoration of 91 years of Dandi March (Salt Satyagraha).The Mahotsav is a 75-week celebration of the 75th year of Indian independence.

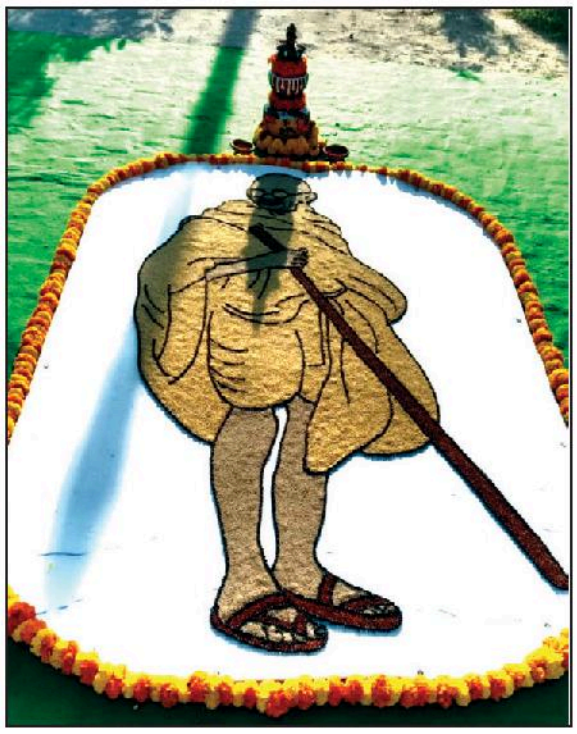
Pointing out that the Mahotsav is organised to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the famous Dandi March (1930), Prog. Hemantha Kumar said that the University has organised the programme based on the Prime Minister's suggestion to conduct the programme at all Universities across the country.

The replica of 'Gyarah Murti' statue, depicting Gandhi's iconic Dandi March of 1931, at Gandhi Bhavan was garlanded on the occasion. Former Commerce faculty of UoM Prof. Yeshwant Dongre delivered a special lecture on the occasion.

UoM Registrar Prof. R. Shivappa, UoM NSS Programme Co-ordinator Dr. M.B. Suresh,Gandhi Bhavan Director Prof. M.S. Shekar, Gandhian K.T. Veerappa and others were present.

University of Mysore (UoM) Vice-Chancellor Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar offering floral tributes to the replica of Gyarah Murti statue, depicting Gandhi's iconic Dandi March of 1931, at Gandhi Bhavan in Manasagangothri on Mar. 12 [The Gyarah Murti statue is an apt tribute to the historic Salt March to Dandi led by Mahatma Gandhi. To commemorate the momentous Dandi March, Government of Independent India commissioned a statue. The statue was to be erected at the T-Junction at Sardar Patel Marg close to President's Estate in New Delhi.]

Spirit of freedom echoes at Satyagraha Soudha



The historic Satyagraha Soudha in Shivapura in Maddur taluk decked up for the launch of 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' event on Mar. 12. Picture right shows one of the rangolis drawn using millets (siridhanya) at the venue.

K.C. Narayanagowda

Mandya, Mar. 14 (SSV)- The historic Satyagraha Soudha in Shivapura in Maddur taluk came alive on Mar. 12 when 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' (Platinum Jubilee of Independence) was flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat.

The District Administration had organised various programmes at Satyagraha Soudha.

While District AYUSH Department had organised yoga by 75 persons, a cleanliness drive was held in all Wards of Maddur town. Department of Public Instructions had organised all religion prayer. Competitions were conducted for Self Help Groups (SHGs) and general public.

As many as 75 cyclists took out jatha on behalf of the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, and a half marathon was held at Maddur Taluk Ground.

A march-past by NCC, Scouts and Guides was held. Other events held on this occasion included book exhibition and philatelic exhibition. Cultural programmes were held throughout the day.

Speaking on the occasion, K.C. Narayanagowda, Minister for Youth Empowerment and Sports, called upon the people to remember the martyrs of freedom struggle.

For people of Mandya district, Shivapura village has a lot of importance. To encourage traditional 'alemane' (Jaggery making units), a subsidy of Rs. 25 lakh will be given to each owner. Besides, steps have been taken to promote agri-tourism, he added.

Deputy Commissioner S. Aswathi, MLAs M. Srinivas and D.C. Thammanna, ZP President Nagaratnaswamy, MLC K.T. Srikantegowda, ZP CEO Zulfiqar Ulla, Assistant Commissioner Shivananda Murthy and others were present.

KSOU's Virtual Job Mela from Mar. 15

Mysuru, Mar. 14- Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), in association with JobKart, will be organising virtual 'Udyoga Mela' (Job Fair) from Mar. 15 to 22. While over 100 companies are expected to participate in the 8-day job fair, over 6,700 job aspirants will attend the Mela.

Dy.CM Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan will inaugurate. KSOU VC Prof. Vidyashankar, Registrar Prof. Lingaraja Gandhi, employment officer Dr. R.H. Pavithra, JobKart CEO S.V. Venkatesh and others will take part.

Employment officer Dr. Pavithra has stated that KSOU Placement Cell has maintained data of over 19,000 unemployed students who will be informed about the job fair through SMS.

How to participate in the Job Fair: Participants need to download the Job Kart app available on Google Play Store, fill-in their educational qualification details in the app and upload the scanned copies of relevant documents as well as one-minute video clip about their educational qualification. Based on their qualification and skills, one can select suitable jobs to apply.

The names of short-listed candidates will be published by the participating companies and will be communicated over the phone for an interview.

The recruitment of candidates will be based on direct interview process.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

Movie	Theatre	Phone	Shows
Roberrt (K)	Woodlands	2422871	4 Shows
	Balaji Deluxe	2497199	4 Shows
	Mahadeshwara	9986022634	4 Shows
	Gayathri	2443568	4 Shows
	Prabha	2423569	4 Shows
	Saraswathi	2541451	4 Shows
Pogaru (K)	Padma	2521923	4 Shows
Inspector Vikram (K)	Lakshmi	2443584	4 Shows
Hero (K)	Sangam	2520494	4 Shows
Chakra (Ta)	Uma	2520009	4 Shows
Sreekaram (Te)	Rajkamal	2423554	4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Jathi Rathanalu (Te)	(S-1)	9.30 am; (S-2) 4.10 pm
Roberrt (K)	(S-1)	12.20 pm, 3.30 pm 6.45 pm, 9.55 pm
	(S-2)	9.55 pm
	(S-4)	9.10 am, 12.25 pm 3.35pm, 6.45pm, 9.55pm
Hero (K)	(S-2)	10.30 am, 7.15 pm
Sreekaram (Te)	(S-2)	1.10 pm
Varthamanam (Ma)	(S-3)	10.45 am
Pogaru (K)	(S-3)	1.15 pm
Roohi (H)	(S-3)	4.30 pm, 7.15 pm
Gaali Sampath (Te)	(S-3)	9.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE — Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Roberrt (K)	(S-1)	10.45 am, 2.15 pm 6.00 pm, 9.45 pm
	(S-2)	9.45 am, 1.15 pm 5.00 pm, 8.45 pm
	(S-3)	9.25 pm; (S-4) 11.45 am
Hero (K)	(S-4)	6.46 pm
Roohi (H)	(S-4)	3.30 pm, 9.55 pm
Sreekaram (Te)	(S-3)	2.30 pm
Jathi Rathnalu (Te)	(S-3)	11.00 am, 5.45 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Hero (K)	(S-1)	10.45 am, 4.00 pm
Sreekaram (Te)	(S-1)	1.15 pm; (S-4) 8.30 pm
Roberrt (K)	(S-1)	6.45 pm
	(S-2)	10.00 am, 1.15 pm 4.30 pm, 8.00 pm
	(S-3)	11.15 am, 2.30 pm 5.45 pm, 9.15 pm
Pogaru (K)	(S-4)	10.45 am, 5.15 pm
Inspector Vikram (K)	(S-4)	2.00 pm

PVR — Ph: 0821 - 4850555

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor, Mysuru

Roberrt (K)	:	9am, 10am, 11am, 12.30pm, 12.40pm 1.40 pm, 2.40 pm, 4.20 pm, 5.20 pm, 6.20 pm, 8 pm, 9 pm, 9.35 pm
Sreekaram (Te)	:	3.35 pm, 10 pm
Jathi Ratnalu (Te)	:	8.55 am, 12.15 pm, 6.40 pm
Roohi (H)	:	9.40 am, 12.40 pm, 3.45 pm, 6.50 pm, 9.50 pm
Hero (K)	:	6.45 pm
My Hero Academia (E)	:	4.10 pm
Varthamanam (Ma)	:	9.40 pm

Garuda Mall, 1st Floor, Mysuru

Roberrt (K)	:	10 am, 11 am, 1.40 pm, 2.40 pm 5.20pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 9.40pm, 10pm
Sreekaram (Te)	:	9.30 am, 6.45 pm
Roohi (H)	:	9.30 am, 12.30 pm, 6.35 pm
Jathi Ratnalu (Te)	:	3.25 pm, 9.40 pm
Hero (K)	:	3.40 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

Mumbai City FC wins maiden Hero ISL trophy

Mumbai City FC were crowned Champions of Hero Indian Super League (Hero ISL) 2020-21 after a 2-1 win over ATK Mohun Bagan (ATKMB) at Fatorda Stadium in Goa yesterday. David Williams gave the Mariners the lead but an own goal in the first half by Tiri and a Bipin Singh winner in the final minute of regulation time meant that the Islanders won Hero ISL 2020-21.

Roy Krishna (ATKMB) - Hero of the League.

Bipin Singh (Mumbai) - Hero of the Match.

Arindam Bhattacharja (ATKMB) collects the Golden Glove Award.

Bartholomew Ogbeche (Mumbai) wins DHL Winning Pass of the Match.

EVENTS TODAY (MAR. 14)

- **Sahara Arts and Crafts Shopping Festival:** Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, JSS Ground, next to Doddakere Maidan, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Shree Nalwadi Foundation:** Valedictory of RK Cup-2021, Tennis Ball Cricket Corporate Match - 1st Year, Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Ground, **4.30 pm.** [Mob: 78921-36030 or 80502-63012]
- **Akhila Bharata Sharana Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru City Unit:** Kanlalu Basavalingegowda Endowment Programme, Ganayogi Panchakshari Gawai Memorial Vachana Sangeethotsava, Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji graces the occasion, Hindustani singer Pt. Indudhara Nirodi inaugurates, ADC Dr. B.S. Mallikarjunaswamy presides, Hindustani singers Pt. J. Niranjana & J. Poorvi and Sunita Hiremath, Sri Rajendra Bhavan, JSS Hospital premises, **5 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha:** Indiradevi Praphullachandra Veerappa Memorial Programme sponsored by V. Praphullachandra, Karnatak Classical Vocal Duet on 'Shivarpanam' by Bangalore Brothers — Vidwan M.B. Hariharan and Vidwan S. Ashok — accompanied by Vid. Mattur R.Srinidhi on violin, Vid. B.S. Prashanth on mridanga and Vid.Sharath Kaushik on ghata, Sabha premises, Mysore K. Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **Natana School of Theatre Arts:** Staging of play 'Janashatru' (Written and directed by S. Surendranath based on Henrik Ibsen's 'An enemy of the people'), School premises, Ramakrishnanagar, **6.30 pm.**
- **Samskara Bharati, Mysuru:** Music Programme by Vidu. Harini Ramesh (vocal), Vidu. C.V. Shruti (violin), Vid. Malola Simha (mridanga) and Vid. Samith (ghata), Ganavisharada Bidaram Krishnappa Rama Mandira, Narayana Shastry Road, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MAR. 15)

- **Nanjangud Sri Raghavendraswamy Mutt, Subbarayanakere, Mysuru:** Guru Vaibhavotsava 2021, Sri Raghavendraswamy's 400th annual Pattabhisheka Mahotsava, Sahasra Kalasha Ksheerabhisheka, **8 am;** Navagraha Sahita Mrutyunjaya Homa (Gruha Dosha Nivarane, Apamrutyu Parihara), Mutt premises, **9 am.**
- **Department of Environment Engineering, JSS Science and Technology University, Mysuru:** Inauguration of 2-day workshop — 'The Water Conclave - for better future' — Minister of Environment and Ecology C.P. Yogeeshwara chief guest, Acting VC Prof. Siddaramaiah presides, SJCE campus, CS/IS Seminar Hall, Golden Jubilee Bhavan, **9.45 am.**
- **Sahara Arts and Crafts Shopping Festival:** Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, JSS Ground, next to Doddakere Maidan, opp. Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Vidyavardhaka Law College, Seshadripuram Road:** World Consumer Rights Day, District Consumer Redressal Commission Mysuru President B. Narayanappa inaugurates, CREAT Executive Head Y.G. Muralidharan delivers keynote address, Vidyavardhaka Sangha President Gundappa Gowda presides, IIT Alumni and Mysore Grahakara Parishat Founder Bhamy V. Shenoy chief guest, Vidyavardhaka Sangha Secretary and Treasurer Shrishail Ramannavar guests of honour, Sri P.M. Chikkaboraiah auditorium, **10.30 am.**
- **Sri Chamundeshwari Temple, Chamundi Hill:** 'Sapthapadi' - Mass Simple Marriage Programme, 16 couple to tie knot, District Minister S.T. Somashekar inaugurates, MLA G.T. Devegowda presides, Mayor Rukmini Madegowda and ZP President Parimala Shyam chief guests, Hill premises, **11 am to 12 noon.**
- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi and Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute, Mysuru:** Inauguration of 6-day Refresher Training to English, Mathematics and Science Teachers of Scheduled Tribe Ashram Schools, Gnanaganga Vidyasamsthe, Kuvempunagar, **11 am.**

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Superintending Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysuru -571130 invites on behalf of the President of India, Sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s):

Tender Reference No.	BARC/MYS/PO&M/RF/Aq. HF /SALE/2021/
Description of Item	Purchase and Collection of 10,000 ltrs. of "Aqueous Hydrofluoric Acid By-product)", expected to be generated during process and stored in 30 litrs. capacity HDPE carboys (Jerry Cans) and Transportation of the chemical, in one or more than one lot /year in 3 years period, by prospective buyers, in party's own vehicle to their works, taking whole and sole responsibility of chemical handling, during transit.
Earnest Money Deposit	**Nil** , Bid Security Declaration(Hard Copy) may please be provided, as per the format enclosed in a separate sealed envelope. Non-compliance of Bid Security Declaration would amount to suspension from Bidding for this tender and also future tender for a period of 6 months, as decided by Superintending Engineer, BARC, Mysuru.
Security Deposit	**10.0% of tendered value**
Period of Completion	**3 Years**
Cost of Tender Document	₹500 (Rupees 500/-only). Tender document (by post)- ₹50/- extra i.e. ₹500/- + ₹50/- (Non-Refundable)
Tender Sale Period	**From 15.03.2021 to 29.03.2021, Till 16.00 Hrs**
Due Date & time for submission of Tender	**19.04.2021 Till 2.00 PM**
Date & time of opening of Tender	**19.04.2021, 2.30 PM**
Place of Tender Submission	Tender Box No. 3, kept at Bldg.2, BARC, Mysuru
Place of Tender opening	Accounts Section, Bldg.2, BARC, Mysuru
Contact No.	PM(PO&M):**0821-2406161** Dy.PM, (O-RF): **0821- 2406640** Office : **0821-2402154/0821-2406568**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, BARC, Mysuru
For & on behalf of the President of India

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